

CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT)

Wednesday, May 26, 2004

Stephen P. Clark Center

Miami-Dade Commission Chambers

111 NW 1st Street

Miami, FL

10:00 am

Summary of Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hon. John F. Cosgrove, Chairman
Hon. Mike Abrams
Harold Braynon, Jr.
Franklin Kelly
Maureen O'Donnell
Theodore Wilde

Marc Buoniconti, Vice-Chairman
Yolanda Aguilar
Henry Lee Givens
Hon. Luis Morse
Hon. James Reeder

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Bruce Libhaber

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carlos Bonzon, Ph.D, Surface Transportation Manager
Irma San Roman, Interim Executive Director
Clinton Forbes, MDT
Marlene Amaro, OCITT
Joanna Santiago, OCITT
Dunbar Cornelle, DBD
Frank Talleda, MDT
Betty Alexander, DBD
Judy Seidner, CMO
Pepé Valdes, OCITT
Russ Marchner, Dade League of Cities
John Labriola, OCITT

Patty David, OCITT
Barbara Bravo, OCITT
Hilda Fernandez, Communications
Dea Martinez, CICC
John Prats, OCITT
Cathy Lewis, MDT
Sandra Melean, PWD
Joe Rasco, Citizen
Jack Furney, OCITT
Virginia Diaz, OCITT
Carlos Trueba, Citizen

ROLL CALL

With a quorum being present, Mr. Cosgrove, Chairman of the CITT, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER – MAUREEN O'DONNELL

Kay Sullivan, Deputy Clerk of the Board, swore in Ms. Maureen O'Donnell. Ms. O'Donnell stated that she looks forward working with the members of the CITT.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Cosgrove requested approval of the agenda. The agenda was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 28, 2004

Mr. Franklin Kelly asked that the minutes reflect his vote on Agenda Item 71E as a negative vote. The corrected minutes were unanimously approved.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

None

REPORTS

Chairman's Report – Hon. John Cosgrove

Mr. Cosgrove thanked Commissioner Moss for withdrawing his proposed amendment to the Ordinance at the BCC meeting. He thanked Hilda Fernandez for her dedication and hard work as the Executive Director of the OCITT and wished her well in her new position as the Director of the Miami-Dade Communication Department. He welcomed Ms. Irma San Roman as the Interim Executive Director and stated that Ms. San Roman will be a valuable asset to the CITT.

Mr. Cosgrove announced his resignation as a member of the CITT due to the articles written about him regarding a recent report from the Inspector General claiming a “conflict of interest” on his part. He stated that he did not do anything wrong but felt it would be in the best interest of the CITT for him to submit his resignation. The following members expressed their personal thanks to Mr. Cosgrove for his leadership and public service to the community: Mike Abrams, Marc Buoniconti, Luis Morse, Henry Lee Givens, Yolanda Aguilar, James Reeder and Franklin Kelly. Mr. Cosgrove thanked his colleagues for their kind words.

Mr. Theodore Wilde expressed his concerns about the fact that the CITT members were not informed that Mr. Cosgrove had been appointed to the Selection Committee.

Executive Director's Report - Hilda Fernandez

Ms. Fernandez thanked Mr. Cosgrove for his leadership and support during her time as the Executive Director. Ms. Fernandez reported on the following items:

- Letter of Resignation as the OCITT Executive Director effective May 22, 2004.
- New Member Orientation held May 14, 2004 at the Miami-Dade Water Sewer Building, attended by members Maureen O'Donnell, Herminio Lorenzo, Franklin Kelly and Harold Braynon, Jr.
- Municipal Workshop held May 21, 2004 at the Town of Medley Commission Chambers.
- 90-Day Report for the period of January – March 2004 (copy of report was distributed)
- Agenda Item 71E was the first rejected contract by the CITT but was overridden by the Board of County Commissioners on May 25, 2004.
- Commissioner Moss' three recommendations for PTP Amendments Approval Process:
 - All PTP Proposed Amendments must be submitted to the BCC Transportation Committee as an informational item
 - Staff must meet with individual County Commissioners when proposed amendments are being submitted.
 - Any proposed PTP Amendment must be submitted to the CITT by the County Manager's office.
- RFP – 427 will go before the BCC on June 6 without a recommendation from the BCC Transportation Committee
- BCC Transportation Committee approved the Proposed Expansion of the Golden Passport. Commissioner Bruno Barreiro recommended that that portion of the program be referred to as the “Patriot Pass”.
- OCITT Office configuration is pending City of Miami approval for permits

Budget & Finance Committee – Theodore Wilde

Mr. Wilde reported that the committee met May 13, 2004 and approved the action item related to Property Appraisals.

Project Review Committee – LtCol Antonio Colmenares

Ms. Fernandez reported on behalf of Lt. Col. Antonio Colmenares. She stated that the committee met May 12 at the South Miami Education Center. Several citizens attended to express their concerns regarding the 82nd Avenue project, although it is not a PTP project. In addition, David Tinder, PTP Coordinator, provided updated information regarding the SW 127th Avenue and SW 120th Street issue that was brought forward by resident Lawrence Percival at a previous PRC meeting.

External Affairs Committee – Hon. Luis Morse

Mr. Morse provided an oral report on the External Affairs Committee. (A copy of the report was distributed.)

Compliance & Oversight Committee – Henry Lee Givens

Mr. Givens reported that due to the lack of a quorum, the May 24, 2004 meeting was cancelled. However, OCITT and MDT staff met with two individuals from the community who expressed concerns about minority participation in the hiring of Property Appraisers.

Clinton Forbes, MDT Executive Assistant, reported that the department has developed an outreach program to work with the minority appraiser to ensure inclusion in future contracts. Ms. Kathy Lewis, Chief of the Office of Civil Rights at MDT, said she met with a gentleman who is a member of the African American Property Appraisers and that MDT will be conducting an informational session for his organization and help them register with the County in order to conduct business. Furthermore, she stated that in order not to exclude any other ethnic groups, the department has also contacted the Member Property Appraiser Institute. To date, there are two recognized Property Appraiser Organizations: the Certified Member Appraisal Institute (MAI) and the Accredited Senior Appraiser, American Society of Appraisers (ASA).

Mr. Morse stated that in late 1980s when he was a State Representative, he introduced a bill that required Property Appraisers to have a State Licensure and did not require membership in either of those two organizations. He stressed that there was concern at the time that neither MAI nor ASA had any minority members, and he asked if that had changed. Mr. Morse further stated that he was surprised to see that the contracts before the Trust's approval are specifying a need to have certification from those organizations. Ms. Lewis responded that in order to conduct business for the County it is not necessary for Property Appraisers to have either of these two certifications, but he agreed that more work must be done to ensure minority participation, and that MDT is investigating the issue.

Mr. Cosgrove asked that an update be provided at the next CITT meeting.

Compliance & Oversight Committee – Henry Lee Givens

Mr. Givens provided the members with a brief report on his attendance at the PTA Conference in Denver, Colo. In addition, he expressed his concern that publicly owned businesses, such as John Deere, have very few if any minorities on their boards of directors and he felt that needed to be addressed.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. RESOLUTION BY THE CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT) APPROVING THE ACTION OF THE MIAMI-DADE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BCC) AUTHORIZING MIAMI-DADE TRANSIT (MDT) TO

SECURE AN INDEPENDENT, CERTIFIED MEMBER APPRAISAL INSTITUTE (MAI) OR ACCREDITED SENIOR APPRAISER, AMERICAN SOCIETY OF APPRAISERS (ASA) TO PERFORM PROPERTY APPRAISALS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED COUNTY APPRAISER SELECTION PROCEDURES, IN A BLANKET AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000.00

Mr. Givens moved to approve action item 8A. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reeder and carried without dissent.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Abrams suggested that Marc Buoniconti request a joint meeting with the County Manager and the BCC to discuss how to have a better relationship between the CITT and BCC.

Mr. Abrams moved that on the occasion of the one-year anniversary of the CITT the Chairperson of the CITT request from the County Manager and Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler to consider the question of a joint task force to analyze issues relating to governance of the CITT. The motion was seconded by Mr. Reeder and carried without dissent.

Mr. Givens moved to direct the Executive Director to prepare a resolution thanking John Cosgrove for his leadership and service as Chairman of the CITT.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Hon. John F. Cosgrove

****MINUTES ARE IN SUMMARY FORM****

**FOR A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPTION OF THIS MEETING PLEASE REQUEST
COPIES OF THE TAPE FROM THE MIAMI-DADE OCITT OFFICE AT 305-375-3481**